

Message Text

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ACTION CEQ-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 FEA-01 CIAE-00

OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-11 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-05 SS-15

SP-02 INT-05 (ISO) W

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R 231040Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5105

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS CALCUTTA 0225

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, SPOP, OVIP, IN

SUBJECT: VISIT TO CALCUTTA OF CHAIRMAN RUSSELL PETERSON AND
DR. LEE TALBOT

REF: STATE 301715, STATE 294297, CALCUTTA 3072

1. CHAIRMAN PETERSON AND DR. TALBOT SPENT THE BULK OF THEIR TWO-DAY VISIT TO CALCUTTA TOURING BUSTEES (SLUMS), POPULATION CONTROL FACILITIES, AND PROJECTS OF THE CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY(CMDA). THEY MADE CALLS ON BHOLANATH SEN, MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL, AND CHAIRMAN, CMDA: K.C. SIVARAMAKRISHNAN, SECRETARY, CMDA: DR. DURU LILARAM, DIRECTOR, FERTILITY CONTROL CLINIC, CALCUTTA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE: DR. BISWAMOY BISWAS, SUPERINTENDING ZOOLOGIST, ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA; DR. S.K. DAS GUPTA, STATE FAMILY PLANNING OFFICER. THEY PARTICIPATED IN A DISCUSSION WITH A GROUP OF ACADEMICS INTERESTED IN ENVIRONMENT HEADED BY DR. NILOY CHAUDHURI AND DR. N.R. KAR. MINISTER SEN SPENT AN HOUR AND ONE-HALF WITH PETERSON AND TALFXT AND ATTENDED CONSUL GENERAL'S DINNER FOR THEM THAT EVENING.

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2. DURING THEIR VISIT TO THE MODERN FERTILITY CONTROL CLINIDGN

AS WELL AS TO A SMALL FAMILY WELFARE PLANNING PROJECT IN THE PILKHANA BUSTEE IN HOQDAH, THE VISITORS WERE TOLD THAT LOCAL PEOPLE WERE RECEPTIVE TO BIRTH CONTROL MEASURES IF THEY WERE MADE AVAILABLE. MENSTRUAL REGULATION IS APPARENTLY POPULAR METHOD. MODERN EQUIPMENT FOR FEMALE STERILIZATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE FERTILITY CONTROL CLINIC BUT HAS NOT BEEN USED VERY EXTENSIVELY BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF HOSPITALS BEDS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROCEDURE.

3. DR. BISWAS WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OF WILDLIFE PRESERVES IN INDIA. HE THOUGHT THAT BECAUSE THE VILLAGERS WERE COMING TO APPRECIATE THEM ENCROACHMENTS ON THE PRESERVES WERE DECLINING. CHAIRMAN PETERSON AND DR. TALBOT ALSO MET INFORMALLY WITH PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND IN EASTERN INDIA.

4. BELIEVE VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL ALL AROUND, BOTH AS REGARDS PETERSON AND TALBOT AND INDIAN OFFICIALS AND PERSONALITIES WITH WHOM THEY MET.
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